

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
MEDICAL CENTER
4200 EAST NINTH AVENUE
DENVER 20, COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF BIOPHYSICS

February 3, 1955

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Josh:

I think that Al Garen still has not found exactly the interests with which he wishes to occupy himself for the next ten years or so. This is probably the reason behind his seeking a fellowship. I think the fact that he wants it with you is an indication that he wants to turn his thoughts toward problems of molecular genetics in microorganisms, where he will get a somewhat broader scope than working only with the lytic phages. I think it would be to his advantage to work with you on some line which is already in progress, since he will be entering a fairly new field for him.

I have not seen Alan for some time, so I cannot tell to what extent he has matured scientifically, but, in any event, I think an experience with you would be excellent for him. When he left here, he still had several immaturities in his approach to problems. I believe he has made progress. I think a period of about two years with you would be good for him.

The reasons why Alan does not have a fixed position somewhere probably are as follows: 1) I believe he would prefer not to teach. 2) He is not very energetic about applying for positions. 3) I would guess that he feels he first wants to find a line of work that would appeal to him more than anything else, and then locate a position which would permit him to stick with it. I think he fears taking a position where he will be

Dr. Joshua Lederberg

- 2 -

February 3, 1955

forced to work in a field that may not interest him.

He is a good boy and has good stuff in him. If you could find room for him, I think he would make real accomplishments that would justify your having taken him.

It was good to see you, however briefly. When will you be in Denver next?

With all regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Ted' with a stylized flourish above the 'd'.

Theodore T. Puck

TTP:hw